

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-13

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

S E C R E T STATE 204345

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, KS

SUBJECT: JAPAN-KOREA RELATIONS

REF: STATE 203459

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PAPER AMB YASUKAWA LEFT WITH HABIB
SEPTEMBER 16 WHICH EXPLAINS INTENT OF TANAKA LETTER TO
PARK.

BEGIN QUOTE: THE PERSONAL LETTER OF THE PRIME MINISTER,
WHICH HAS JUST BEEN TRANSMITTED, IS WRITTEN IN THE BELIEF
THAT IT IS NEITHER IN THE INTEREST OF BOTH JAPAN AND THE
REPUBLIC OF KOREA NOR THE DESIRE OF THE TWO PEOPLES TO LET
THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES DETERIORATE TO A
VERY CRITICAL STATE DUE TO THE RECENT UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT.
IN AMPLIFICATION OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S LETTER, THE FOLLOW-
ING CLARIFICATIONS ARE TO BE MADE:

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THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN FEELS MORALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE

FACT THAT THE PREPARATION FOR THE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE IN JAPAN, PARTICULARLY THAT THE CRIMINAL ILLEGALLY OBTAINED A JAPANESE PASSPORT AND STOLE A REVOLVER FROM THE JAPANESE POLICE, AND IT DEEPLY REGRETS THE OCCURRENCE OF THE INCIDENT.

IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT ANOTHER INCIDENT OF THIS NATURE MUST NOT BE REPEATED. THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN, THEREFORE, INTENDS TO DO WHATEVER IT CAN TO PREVENT ANY RECURRENCE OF SUCH AN INCIDENT.

IN VIEW OF THE SERIOUS NATURE OF THE INCIDENT, THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN HAS ORGANIZED AN EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION SETUP AND IS CONDUCTING AN ALL-OUT INVESTIGATION. IT INTENDS TO CONTINUE THE INVESTIGATION IN A SCRUPULOUS AND THOROUGHGOING MANNER WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF THE KOREAN SIDE IN ORDER TO BRING LIGHT ON THE MATTER. IT IS ALSO THE INTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN TO TAKE MEASURES, ACCORDING TO THE RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION, TO DEAL STRICTLY WITH THOSE WHO VIOLATED THE LAW.

THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN IS FULLY AWARE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA HAS CALLED THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHOSOREN TO ACCOUNT AND, AS MENTIONED BEFORE, IS CARRYING ON AN ALL-OUT INVESTIGATION IN JAPAN. THE DOMESTIC INVESTIGATION, HOWEVER, IS YET TO REVEAL A CONNECTION BETWEEN THE CHOSOREN AND THE INCIDENT.

IT IS THE INTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN TO MAKE BEST EFFORTS TO CONTROL CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES INTENDED FOR THE OVERTHROW OF YOUR GOVERNMENT OR SUCH OTHER CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES AS PREPARATIONS FOR TERRORISM AGAINST KOREAN LEADERS REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY ARE COMMITTED BY MEMBERS OF SUCH AN ORGANIZATION AS THE CHOSOREN. IT MAY BE ADDED IN THIS CONNECTION THAT, AS THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA IS AWARE, THE CHOSOREN, EVER SINCE ITS ESTABLISHMENT IN 1955, HAS BEEN AND STILL IS ONE OF THE ORGANIZATIONS TO BE KEPT UNDER SURVEILLANCE UNDER THE LAW CONCERNING THE PREVENTION OF SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES.

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IT IS HOPED THAT THE FOREGOING CLARIFICATIONS ENABLE THE KOREAN SIDE TO UNDERSTAND FULLY THE INTENT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN AND THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA WILL ALSO MAKE EFFORTS TO REESTABLISH THE JAPAN-KOREA RELATIONS, WHICH HAVE BEEN STRAINED DURING THE PAST YEAR, ON A SOLID BASE. END QUOTE KISSINGER

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